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Note verbale dated 11 June 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cuba to the United Nations, in its capacity as President Pro Tempore of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), presents its compliments to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and is honoured to request that the present note and the joint communiqué agreed upon on the occasion of the visit of the ministers for foreign affairs of the extended troika of CELAC to the Russian Federation (see annex) be circulated as a document of the United Nations under item 121 of the agenda of the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session.

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Annex to the note verbale dated 11 June 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Joint communiqué

Meeting of the ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and of the extended troika of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States held in Moscow on 29 May 2013

The first visit of the ministers for foreign affairs of the extended troika of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) to the Russian Federation was held on 29 May 2013. The Republic of Cuba was represented by Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla, as Pro Tempore President of CELAC; the Republic of Chile, by Alfonso Silva Navarro, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs; the Republic of Costa Rica, by Enrique Castillo Barrantes; and the Republic of Haiti, by Pierre Richard Casimir, as Pro Tempore President of the Caribbean Community. The ministers held talks with the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federation of Russia, Sergey Lavrov, about the process of consolidation of CELAC as a mechanism of political coordination and integration for Latin America and the Caribbean and a reflection of the aspirations of unity and strengthening of the multipolar system of international relations. They also highlighted the intention of Russia and CELAC to develop multiple links between them.

As a follow-up to the agreements contained in the joint declaration adopted in the framework of the first meeting of the ministers for foreign affairs of the Russian Federation and the troika of CELAC, held in New York on 28 September 2012, the ministers confirmed the interest in intensifying the political dialogue and expanding intergovernmental cooperation in order to promote mutually advantageous relations between the Russian Federation and CELAC.

Given the above, it was proposed that a permanent mechanism of political dialogue and cooperation between Russia and CELAC be established, with the purpose of creating a suitable space to discuss and agree on positions on various issues of interest of the international agenda. The ministers for foreign affairs of the expanded troika of CELAC will present this proposal for the consideration and approval of the other States members of the Community in its next meeting of ministers for foreign affairs.

The parties stressed that such cooperation would be directed in particular at strengthening the multilateral framework and promoting the principles of international law and of the Charter of the United Nations, consolidating democracy and ensuring all human rights for all; fighting international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including its funding; jointly combating the illicit traffic in drugs and arms, trafficking in persons, laundering of the proceeds of crime, organized transnational crime and other new challenges and threats; contributing to food and energy security; preserving the environment; and promoting sustainable economic and social development.

The ministers for foreign affairs reaffirmed the importance of building, with the participation of all States, a transparent, democratic, just and equitable international order that will ensure the maintenance of international peace and

security and the progress of all nations. They are convinced that in order to address effectively the challenges and global threats, and to solve international problems of a political, economic, social, cultural or humanitarian nature, international cooperation should be strengthened, on the basis of solidarity, mutual respect and the mutual benefit of peoples and Governments.

The ministers for foreign affairs reaffirmed their total commitment to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its three main pillars: nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and the peaceful use of nuclear energy. They highlighted the importance of the high-level meeting on nuclear disarmament of the General Assembly that will take place on 26 September 2013.

The parties called for the conference for the establishment of a zone in the Middle East that is free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction to be held as soon as possible, in accordance with the agreement reached by the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

The ministers acknowledged the value and contribution of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) and its additional protocols to international peace and security.

The ministers reaffirmed their unanimous and principled position regarding the need to put an end, without further delay, to the economic, commercial and financial embargo of the United States against the Republic of Cuba, which has repeatedly been urged by the overwhelming majority of States Members of the United Nations.

The parties stated they were in favour of a prompt resumption of negotiations between the Government of the Republic of Argentina and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in order to find a peaceful and definitive solution to the sovereignty dispute regarding the Malvinas Islands on the basis of the resolutions of the General Assembly and its Special Committee on Decolonization, respectively.

The ministers acknowledged the efforts of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) to solve the problems associated with guaranteeing stability and security in that country, and its contribution to its re-establishment in accordance with the mandate given by the Security Council. The effectiveness of the efforts of MINUSTAH would be strengthened by the implementation of a sustainable, long-term project by the Government of Haiti, since it is the Government that has the main responsibility for all aspects of the stabilization in the country.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation confirmed the willingness of the Russian Federation to continue participating in the efforts to support the Republic of Haiti in the reconstruction and development of the country, and Russia and the enlarged troika of CELAC call on the members of the international community to maintain and increase cooperation in the reconstruction and sustainable development of Haiti with due respect for the sovereignty of the country.

They expressed deep concern about the threats and challenges arising from the multiple interrelations of the current international crisis, which has a negative impact on the efforts of our countries towards growth and sustainable economic and

social development. They call on the international community to take urgent measures to address the weaknesses and systemic imbalances and to continue efforts to strengthen the international financial system, including the regulation of financial markets, the fulfilment of cooperation commitments and the reform of the international financial institutions.

In this context, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation emphasized to the ministers for foreign affairs of the extended troika of CELAC the priorities of the Presidency of Russia in the Group of 20 in 2013, such as the acceleration of economic growth, increased employment, support to sustainable financial policies, the reform of the international financial and monetary system, the increase in investments in the real sector of the economy, the liberalization of international trade and the promotion of international development. The Russian side stressed its desire to take into consideration the positions of developing countries and their associations, including CELAC.

The ministers also exchanged views on issues of development and economic growth in Russian-Latin American and Caribbean relations, both from a bilateral and a multilateral perspective, stressing the possibility of making joint efforts in the field of high technology, the expansion of the marketing of products with high added value, the promotion of investment and the implementation of industrial cooperation projects and schemes.

The ministers emphasized that the bonds of friendship that exist between the peoples of Russia and Latin America and the Caribbean form a good basis on which to deepen cultural exchanges at all levels, promote cooperation and the transfer of successful experiences in accordance with the priorities set by both regions, strengthen the approach towards a better understanding of the languages and traditions of our peoples, as well as strengthen cooperation in the educational field and expand academic exchanges.

The ministers expressed satisfaction for the results of the visit and the warm, transparent and friendly atmosphere in which the talks were held and vowed to strengthen, in all areas, the friendly relations and cooperation between the members of CELAC and the Russian Federation.

Finally, the ministers thanked the Government of the Russian Federation for the organization of this meeting and the warm hospitality received.